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been completed and the construction of the necessary transmission lines, sub-stations, etc., by this Government is in progress.

" (b) Does not arise.

" (c) Representations have been received from the hon. Member himself and the Panchayat Board, Kasaragode. Supply to the area will be feasible only after Jog power becomes available."

SRI K. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA :—" Sir, may I know whether the possibilities of load development at Puttur and its neighbourhood have been investigated and while there is a proposal to supply electricity to Kasaragode from Mangalore when Mangalore receives supply from Jog, is it not also feasible to supply Puttur by a line from there, as Puttur is nearer to Mangalore than Kasaragode? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Of course, that is yet another question. As the hon. Member says, it is nearer than the place to which power is taken, it can be considered."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think we can take up questions Nos. 360 and 361 together."

*Betting on American Cotton Prices.*

* 360 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that gambling in American Cotton Prices prevails in the Madras City; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Police to prevent it?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The Police have taken adequate steps to prevent betting on American Cotton Prices."

* 361 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 10-10 a.m

(a) whether it is a fact that there is large scale betting on American Cotton Price in the City; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to prevent this gambling?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) A certain amount of betting on American Cotton Market Prices is prevalent in the City.

" (b) The Police are taking suitable action under the Madras City Police Act."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, is it a fact that this gambling which ruins so many poor people is conducted and encouraged with the help of the Police Department? "

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, it is an absolutely wrong statement and I wish the hon. Member had not made that charge against the Police. They are taking proper action to prevent this."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" பொதுவாக நகரம் பூராவும் இருக்கக் கூடிய அபிப்பிராயம் போலீஸார் இதில் சம்பந்தப்பட்டிருக்கிருர்கள் என்பது தான். இதைப்பற்றி ஒரு சிறிய புஸ்தகம் கூட வெளியிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதையெல்லாம் வைத்துக்கொண்டு போலீசாரின் நடத்தையைப்பற்றி விசாரிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, all sorts of false impressions are spread about officers and others. I think no useful purpose will be served by making any enquiry into this."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister for Finance be pleased to depute a separate Intelligence Department Officer to go with me to places like Loane Square and Kottawal Bazaar where this betting on cotton is carried on on a large scale and where instead of preventing this betting, the Police people are abetting these kinds of crimes?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not think we are improving the situation by making these wholesale charges against the police. There may be one or two who may be misbehaving, but it is not correct to charge the entire police with abetment. I find in 1953, as far as betting on cotton prices is concerned, they have booked 1,374 cases and in quite a good number of cases, the police have taken sufficient action. I do not think it right in the public interest to disclose the nature of action which is being taken."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, are the Government aware that betting on New York cotton prices is not made an offence either under the City Police Act or any other special Act and so, may I know, whether the Government would come forward with a Bill to amend the City Police Act or a new Bill so that persons engaging themselves in betting on cotton prices may be booked and penalized?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, as it is, action is being taken under the City Police Act and we have been able to book many cases and the persons have also been convicted. If it is not possible to put down the evil under the provisions of the City Police Act, Government will consider further measures."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த மோசடி இருக்கிறதே இதைத் தடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பதே எங்கள் நோக்கம். போலீஸை தாக்கவேண்டுமென்பது எங்கள் எண்ணம் அல்ல. அதைப்போலவே போலீஸ் இலாகாவின்மீது அவதூறு சொல்லவேண்டுமென்பதும் அல்ல எங்கள் எண்ணம். சென்னை நகரத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய பெரும்பாலான எழை மக்களை இந்தச் சூதாட்டம் பாதிக்கிறது. அவர்களைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்கு இதை ஆர்கனைஸ் பண்ணுகிறவர்களை தடுப்புக் காவல்

சட்டத்தின் கீழ் சிறையில் அடைப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தாலும் அதை எதிர்க் கட்சிக்காரர்கள் ஆதரிக்கத் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே, தீவிர நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்.''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I shall consider that suggestion, Sir. But I am sure that as soon as action is taken, if not the hon. Member on the opposite bench, some other hon. Members will put forward the plea that people are being detained without trial.''

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—'' When this kind of betting was brought to the notice of the Government, how and at whose initiative the action was taken? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Now it is a well-know fact even from the questions of the hon. Members that it is very much prevalent in the City. Therefore, it has come to the notice of the Government and the Police and they have taken action.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—'' ஸார், பஞ்சு மார்க்கெட் சூதாட்டம் என்பது கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் குறிப்பிட்ட மாதிரி சென்னை நகரத்தில் சந்து பொந்துகளிலெல்லாம் பரவியிருக்கிறது. போலீஸ்காரர்கள் இதில் சம்பந்தப்படுகிறார்களா இல்லையா என்பதைப்பற்றி கவலைப்படவேண்டியதில்லை. எப்படியாவது இந்த சூதாட்டம் தடுக்கப்படவேண்டும். அதற்கு சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதுதான் கேள்வி.''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' The Government are aware of the extent of the evil. Therefore, they will try their best to eradicate it and I may assure hon. Members that all possible action is being taken. If necessary, the Government will not hesitate to bring forward further measures to put down this evil.''

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—'' சூதாட்டத்தை யார் நடத்துகிறார்கள் என்று சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியவந்திருக்கிறதா ? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Yes, Sir, whenever it has been known, the person concerned is booked. It is not done by any particular person. Various individuals who want to make easy money are indulging in these activities.''

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—'' This betting on cotton prices is an organized system of gambling and persons with a lot of money are behind it. Unless the Government take some special steps, like appointing persons whom they can trust, to investigate as to who are the people behind this system of gambling, mere prosecution of a few illiterates and poor workers is not going to solve this evil. Therefore, there must be a proper investigation as to who are the moneyed people behind it.''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I am thankful for the very useful information given by the hon. Member and we shall try to take action in that matter. But from the way in

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which the question has been put by the hon. Member, he seems to have some valuable information in his custody with reference to certain persons. If only he passes that information to us, we will be very much obliged to him.''

MR. SPEAKER :—'' Questions Nos. 362 and 363 may be taken up together as they relate to the same subject. The same question came up for discussion in this House before and I allowed enough time for it.''

*Crossword competitions.*

* 362 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of crosswords and similar competitions in our State;

(*b*) whether the Government get any income from these competitions either by way of tax or by way of licence fees;

(*c*) whether the Government are examining the question of preventing these competitions; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—'' (*a*) Government do not have the information required.

'' (*b*) No.

'' (*c*) & (*d*) The question of undertaking legislation in the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India.''

* 363 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is prevalence of crosswords and similar other competitions in the State on a large scale; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check them or to put an end to them?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—'' (*a*) Yes.

'' (*b*) The question of undertaking legislation in the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India.''

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—'' In view of the fact that the continuance of crossword competitions is causing definite harm to the people, will the Government issue instructions at least to their officers and highly-placed gentlemen like the Mayor of Madras and the Hon. the Chairman of the Madras Legislative Council not to take part in functions arranged for distributing prizes in crossword competitions?''

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—'' Every effort is made to book the culprits concerned.''